

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-10 are now present in the application. Claims 1, 2, 3 and 8 have been amended. Claims 9 and 10 have been added. Claims 1 and 8 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Diepstraten, U.S. Patent No. 5,339,316. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. Without conceding to the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the application, as the Examiner will note, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of steps including "transmitting data and a separate clock signal from the second control unit to the first control unit, at the same time checking a reception confirmation signal of the first control unit by the second control unit by checking the separate clock signal from the first control unit". Support for the above combination of steps can be found on paragraphs [0034] and [0035]. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of steps set forth in amended independent claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested by the reference relied on by the Examiner.

The Examiner alleged that Diepstraten's control/status bus 56 in FIG. 2 discloses the step of checking a reception confirmation signal of the first control unit by the second control unit. However, Diepstraten merely teaches that the control/status bus 56 carries control/status signals (see col. 3, lines 47-48). Diepstraten nowhere teaches that the control/status signals include a reception confirmation signal as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Diepstraten cannot teach that the wireless MAC control unit 46 or the radio modem 62 checks the reception confirmation signal of the control/status bus 56.

In addition, Diepstraten's control/status bus 56 is a bus different from the clock signal bus TXC 60 or RXC 54. Therefore, even if Diepstraten's control/status signals included a reception confirmation signal, assuming *arguendo*, Diepstraten at best teaches the step of checking a reception confirmation signal by checking the control/status signals on the control/status bus 56. Diepstraten still fails to teach the step of "checking a reception confirmation signal of the first control unit by the second control unit by checking the separate clock signal from the first control unit" as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Since Diepstraten fails to teach each and every recitation of amended independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Diepstraten.

In addition, claims 2-7 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from independent claim 1, which is believed to be allowable.

In view of the above amendments to the claims and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-7 clearly define the present invention over the reference relied on by the

Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Diepstraten in view of Knoblock, U.S. Patent No. 4,186,379, and further in view of Wong, U.S. Patent No. 6,650,149. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. Without conceding to the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the application, as the Examiner will note, independent claim 8 has been amended to recite a combination of elements including "the data reception confirmation signal being transmitted via the clock signal transmission from one of the two control units to the other of the two control units". Support for the above combination of steps can be found on paragraphs [0034] and [0035]. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of elements set forth in amended independent claim 8 is not disclosed or suggested by the references relied on by the Examiner.

As mentioned, Diepstraten fails to teach that the control/status signals include a reception confirmation signal. In addition, even if Diepstraten's control/status signals included a reception confirmation signal, assuming *arguendo*, Diepstraten at best teaches that the reception confirmation signal is transmitted by the control/status bus 56. Since the control/status bus 56 is

a bus different from the clock signal bus TXC 60 or RXC 54, Diepstraten fails to teach “the data reception confirmation signal being transmitted via the clock signal transmission from one of the two control units to the other of the two control units” as recited in amended independent claim 8.

With regard to the Examiner’s reliance on Knoblock and Wong, these references have only been relied on for their teachings related to the pull-up operation unit and the control voltage matching unit. These references also fail to disclose the above combination of elements as set forth in amended independent claim 8. Accordingly, these references fail to cure the deficiencies of Diepstraten.

Accordingly, none of the references utilized by the Examiner individually or in combination teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claim 8. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 8 clearly defines over the teachings of the references relied on by the Examiner.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Claims 9 and 10 have been added for the Examiner’s consideration. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9 and 10 depend from amended independent claim 1, and are therefore allowable based on their dependence from amended independent claim 1, which is believed to be allowable. Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 9 and 10 are respectfully requested.

Additional Cited References

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but rather to merely show the state of the art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

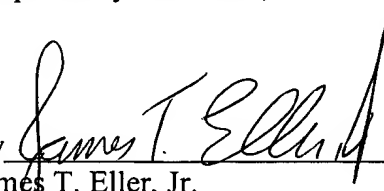
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: August 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorneys for Applicant